

I have always loved gundogs, in particular, Labradors ever since I was a child in the 1960's. My Mother and Father had a black Labrador whose name was Ringo. I also had a working type Labrador in the 1970's.

My wife and I bought our first show Labrador in 1985. We went on, as most Labrador owners have done and increased the Labrador family one by one. We also had Weimaraner's and today we also have a Large Munsterlander.

We bred our first Champion Labrador in 2001. He was Ch Saranden Saboteur JW. He was the top winning Labrador in the UK in 2005. His son whom we trained and showed for one year, went on to win Best Of Breed at Crufts in 2006.

I now award CC's in Labradors, I like all breeds, but a dog that has a good structure and is balanced throughout, and is presented well, will always catch my eye.

My wife and I have tried to maintain the same type of Labrador which we find appealing, and is acceptable all round.

My passion for dogs, in particular, Labradors has been lifelong. Of all activities we do with our dogs, I enjoy training puppies the most, and also like to help owners train their dogs for showing.

My wife and I hold a training class weekly to do just this. I am a member of the UK Royal Kennel Club.

There are many kennels that have influenced me during my show and judging career, and I have always respected my peers and their opinions throughout. This has taught me to choose dogs that I consider to be looking at their best on the day of a show.

Dennis McLellan (Saranden Labradors kennel)